

# **Fieldtrip Guide**

**Bowie Nature Park**



**Get your students outside!**

# WELCOME

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## GET TO KNOW THE PARK

**Bowie Nature Park** is a 700-acre city park rich with a wonderful diversity of flora and fauna. The park also has an abundance of water with five lakes and several underground springs that begin on park property and flow into the Little Turnbull Creek. There are around 12 miles of multipurpose trails that wind through different ecosystems.

**The Nature Center** offers the opportunity for park visitors to learn more about the park itself with nature exhibits and the Bowie Museum, which tells of the Bowie Family that gave the park its name.

**Joann's Outdoor Classroom** is a large covered outdoor facility that is available to school groups at no charge. It is located next to a vernal pool in a 150-year-old oak/hickory forest.

**The Treehouse Playground** is a large wooden playground built by the community that is open to all children. There are separate areas for both toddlers and older children as well as a swing designed specifically for wheel chairs.

## STAFF MISSION

The Educational staff at Bowie Nature Park is dedicated to inspiring environmental stewardship in the community. By offering hands-on educational programs for all ages, we hope to encourage current and future generations to explore, respect and protect the natural world.





# PLAN YOUR TRIP

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## BOWIE FIELD TRIPS

Our fieldtrips are suited for either a half day or whole day experience. Each trip is tailored to how long your group would like to be here, the subject/s chosen, and the number of classes. All of our field trip subjects are developed for a half day experience. In order to create a whole day experience, you will need to choose more than one subject. Classes rotate through stations with activities that support the subject/s of your choice. Most of our trips include hiking, whether it is just to get from one place to another or a part of the trip itself. All of our trips include hands-on, evidence-based learning with plenty of time to explore and investigate the natural world.

Example Field Trip Schedule:

Time	Station #1 Soil Lab	Station #2 Soil Hike	Station #3 Scavenger Hunt	Station #4 Field Ecosystem
9:35 – 10:20	Group A	Group B	Group C	Groups D
10:25 – 11:10	Group B	Group A	Group D	Group C
11:15 – 12:15	Lunch & Playground	Lunch & Playground	Lunch & Playground	Lunch & Playground
12:20 – 1:05	Group C	Group D	Group A	Group B
1:10 – 1:55	Group D	Group C	Group B	Group A

*\*A full detailed schedule example is available upon request*

## TRIP LENGTH

**Half day** trips are typically around 1 or 2 hours in length. The minimum number for this choice is 1 class and the maximum is 2 classes.

**Whole day** trips are typically 3 or 4 hours in length and include a break for lunch. The minimum number for this choice is 3 classes and the maximum is 4 classes. Choose two of our field trip topics to make your trip a full day experience.

**Multiple Day** trips are required when the number exceeds 4 classes. Due to the amount of staff and volunteers available we cannot give a quality field trip with such a large group in one day.

## LUNCH

There are a few different areas to have lunch in the park. Shelter #1 is located next to Lake Van. It is a covered picnic shelter with 8 picnic tables. Also available is a row of 8 picnic tables next to the shelter that run alongside Lake Van. We can reserve Shelter #1 for you if given notice at the time of registration. Many groups also like to take advantage of our Treehouse Playground while taking their lunch break. If you would like this option, please let us know so that we can schedule extra time in your lunch break.

## COME PREPARED

**Dress appropriately** for the weather. Make sure everyone wears close-toed shoes and clothes that they don't mind getting dirty.

**Collecting Natural Objects**, living or non-living, is not allowed in Bowie Nature Park, unless it is part of our staff-led program.

# FIELDTRIP SUBJECTS

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## Senses (Kindergarten)

Through special activities, we will learn how engaging in our senses can open us up to new insights and show us how our local animals use their senses to survive.

Standards: K.LS1, K.ESS2, K.ETS1

## Habitats (K - 3rd)

We will visit the different habitats found in Bowie Park so that we may investigate what animals live in these habitats and whether or not these places provide their basic needs.

Standards: K.LS1, K.ESS3, K.ETS1, K.ETS2, 1.PS3, 1.LS2, 1.ETS1, 1.ETS2, 2.LS1, 2.LS2, 2.ESS2, 2.ETS2, 3.LS1, 3.LS4

## Ecosystems (2nd - 4th)

Ecosystems are filled with exciting interactions. During this field trip, we will explore and compare different ecosystems, and discuss why it is important to study these spaces.

Standards: 2.LS1, 2.LS2, 2.ETS2, 3.LS1, 3.LS4, 3.ESS3, 4.LS2, 4.ESS3

## Insects & More (K - 5th)

Insects can teach us many things about our natural world. Through different insect centered activities and exploration of their habitats we can learn about food webs, ecosystems, predator/prey interactions, adaptations, and more.

Standards: K.LS1, K.LS3.1, K.ESS3, K.ETS1, 1.ETS1, 1.ETS2, 2.LS1, 2.LS2, 2.LS3, 2.ETS2, 3.LS1, 3.LS4, 4.LS2, 5.LS3, 5.LS4

## Animals (2nd - 5th)

Students will have a chance to examine live and preserved specimens of different classifications in order to compare their anatomy and discover how they have adapted for survival.

Standards: 2.LS1, 2.LS2, 2.LS3, 3.LS1, 3.LS2, 3.LS4, 4.LS2, 5.LS1, 5.LS3, 5.LS4

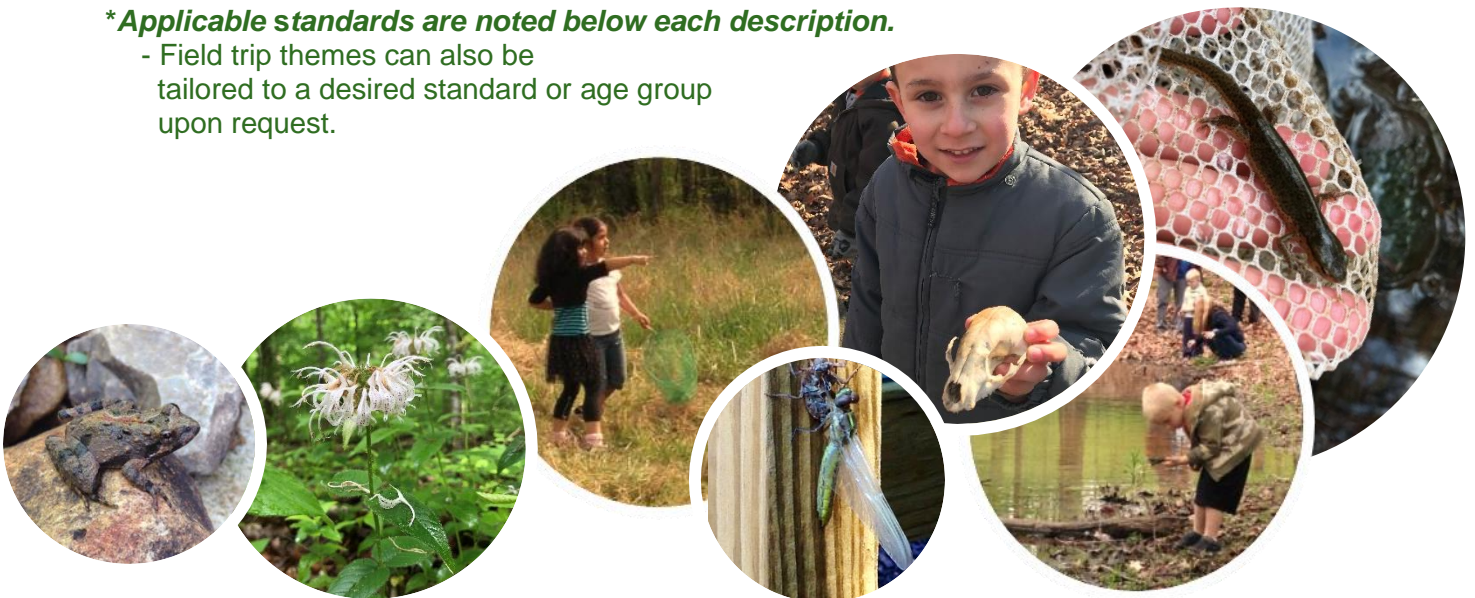
## Plants (1st - 5th)

What makes a plant a plant? Students will investigate the anatomy of plants, identify local flora, and explore their interactions with wildlife.

Standards: 1.LS1, 1.LS2, 1.ETS1, 1.ETS2, 2.LS1, 2.LS3, 3.LS1, 3.LS4, 4.LS2, 5.LS1, 5.LS3, 5.LS4

***\*Applicable standards are noted below each description.***

- Field trip themes can also be tailored to a desired standard or age group upon request.





## FIELDTRIP SUBJECTS

### Seasons (K & 1st)

How do we know that spring has sprung or that fall has fallen? Investigate the change in weather as well as how plants and animals respond to seasonal changes while enjoying the best that each season has to offer.

Standards: K.LS1, K.ESS2, K.ESS3, K.ETS1, K.ETS2, 1.PS3, 1.LS1, 1.LS2, 1.ESS1, 1.ETS1, 1.ETS2

### Earth Systems (1st - 5th)

Everyone can become a raindrop and travel through the water cycle or explore how the sun powers life. There are many unique cycles and processes that connect the living and non-living to create the world as we know it. If you have a certain earth system you would like to explore with Bowie, let us know at registration.

Standards: 1.PS3, 1.ESS1, 1.ETS1, 1.ETS2, 2.ESS1, 2.ESS2, 2.ETS2, 3.ESS2, 3.ESS3, 4.ESS1, 4.ESS2, 4.ESS3, 5.ESS1

### Soils (K - 4th)

Get up close and personal with soil and discover the secrets that lie within. We will explore the soil layers, processes that create soil, and the critters that call soil home.

Standards: K.LS1, K.ESS3, K.ETS1, K.ETS2, 1.ETS1, 1.ETS2, 2.ESS2, 2.ETS2, 3.ESS3, 4.ESS1, 4.ESS2, 4.ESS3

### Rocks & Minerals (3rd & 4th)

Through the study of rocks and minerals, we can step into the past and learn about the Earth's history. Through hands-on labs, hikes, and activities we will be able to see our home planet with new eyes and understand how humans use and affect it.

Standards: 3.ESS3, 4.ESS1, 4.ESS2, 4.ESS3

### Fossils (4th & 5th)

Dig through the past and unlock Tennessee's geologic history with fossils! Come find out what they are made of and how they form. You will even get a chance to sort through and explore local fossils.

Standards: 4.LS4, 5.LS4



# OTHER FIELD TRIP OFFERS

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## FIELD TRIP ADD-ONS

If you wish to cross even more discipline boundaries, we have the option to add reading and/or writing into the rotations. If you would like to add a book and/or writing prompt that goes along with your topic choices, please let us know at registration.

## APES FIELDTRIPS

AP Environmental Science field trips are special field labs that are two hours in length. The minimum number of students for this type of trip is 15 and the maximum is 40. Anything over 40 requires the group to be split up over multiple dates.

If you are interested in bringing your AP Environmental Science class to Bowie, please contact us and we can set up a personalized experience that will work best for you and your students.

### APES Subjects

Soil Study  
Ecosystem Comparison  
Population Study with Lichen and/or Insects  
Wetlands Study  
Exotic Invasive Plants & Land Management  
Succession  
Macroinvertebrates/Water Quality



# OTHER TRIP OPTIONS

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## CUSTOM FIELDTRIP

We would be glad to work with you if you do not see your desired subject or the number of students you have does not meet our limits. Please contact us so we can discuss a solution.

## SELF-GUIDED TRIP

Advance reservations are required in order to ensure a quality experience for all visitors. You are more than welcome to bring your group to the park without having a naturalist-led program. Grab a trail map and head out on your own. We can make suggestions upon request.

## OUTREACH PROGRAM

Can't make it out to Bowie? Our outreach program brings Bowie Nature Park to you. Give us a call to find out more about this unique opportunity.

## REGISTRATION

Advance registration is required for all field trips, including self-guided groups. All field trips are free to everyone.

Please have the following information ready.

1. Total # of students and classes
2. 2-3 date options
3. Topic selection
4. Contact person & group leader (if different)
5. Arrival & departure times
6. Any special needs
7. Lunch plans



In order to register contact **Nancy Jackson** at **(615)799-5544 ext. 2** or via email at **[programdirector@fairview-tn.org](mailto:programdirector@fairview-tn.org)**

**\*Please keep in mind that our calendar fills quickly and that you will need to schedule your field trip as soon as possible.**

## CANCELATION

Our programs are rain or shine. However, we reserve the right to cancel any field trip due to severe weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances. If your group needs to cancel please call by 8:00am day of at the absolute latest. An earlier notification is preferred if possible.







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